

CHAPTER 5

INSPECTING AND MARKING CANVAS AND WEBBING

5-1. INITIAL INSPECTIONS

Defective canvas and webbed items are initially inspected to determine whether or not they can be repaired economically. Items not worth repairing are set aside to be cannibalized later for usable parts and cloth. Defects that can be repaired at a reasonable cost are marked with white chalk. Figure 5-1 gives the seven symbols to be used during the inspection of canvas and webbing items. When defective canvas and webbed items are received in a fabric repair shop, they are first tested for fabric strength. Fabric strength is the ability of the cloth to resist tearing. It is tested by folding the cloth on the straight grain, grasping a small section of the fold between the thumb and the forefinger of each hand, gripping it so that the fingers touch, and tugging firmly on the cloth several times. If the cloth does not rip, it is strong enough to be used again. If the cloth rips, several other sections are tested to determine their strength. If they rip, the item is set aside to salvage the usable hardware. Items that pass the fabric strength test are then inspected for other defects. After tents and other heavy items have passed the fabric strength test, they are hoisted by a block and tackle and inspected section by section from the top down.

Tents are raised a few feet at a time. An inspector examines each newly exposed area on the inside and points out the defects to another inspector who marks the defects on the outside surface with chalk. Table 5-1 lists the areas marked by the inspector.

5-2. FINAL INSPECTIONS

After canvas and webbed items are repaired, they are reinspected. These inspections are made to make sure that all repairs were done properly and that no defects were missed by either the initial inspector or the fabric repair specialist. Each repair is closely examined to determine if the correct thread, stitch length, and seam type were used. All breaks in stitching are checked for backstitching. Patches are inspected to make sure they match the fabric of the canvas item in weight and color. Repairs to webbed items are examined to determine if the correct size webbing was used and if the repairs were stitched properly. Replaced hardware is checked to make sure it is installed correctly. All detachable items, such as liners and sashes, are examined to make sure they were repaired and reattached to the right tent.





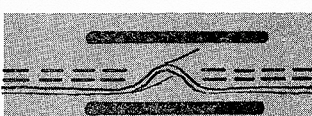
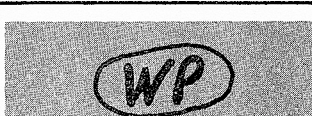
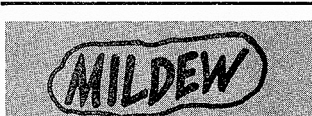
MEANING	
	<p>On tents: Repair this damaged area which is less than 4 3/4 inches across with a sewn or cemented patch.</p> <p>On other items: Darn this tear or hole. Tack this seam.</p>
	<p>On tents: Patch this damaged area which is more than 4 3/4 inches across with a machine or by hand.</p> <p>On other items: Patch this damaged area by machine.</p>
	<p>Repair this hidden defect.</p> <p>Replace the missing hardware.</p>
	<p>Replace the missing or damaged part on the inside.</p> <p>Replace this section or panel.</p> <p>Replace this old patch.</p>
	<p>Close this open seam along the entire length of these lines.</p>
	<p>Waterproof (WP) this item.</p> <p>Note: This mark is drawn on the doors of tents.</p>
	<p>Clean and re-treat this area. If necessary, patch or replace the area.</p>

Figure 5-1. Chalk marks used on canvas and webbed items

Table 5-1. Areas marked in initial inspection of canvas and webbing

DEFECT	REPAIR
Canvas:	
Worn or weak areas (Worn areas are usually located where the canvas rubs against other objects. Weak areas are those that fail the strength strength test.)	Replace or patch
Holes (Chalk mark is placed next to the hole.)	Patch
Area with several holes	Replace
Tears	Darn or patch
Mildew-stained areas	Clean and re-treat
Mildew-rotted areas	Patch or replace
Overly patched areas	Replace
Badly repaired areas	Repair again
Broken threads	Restitch
Open seams	Restitch
Poorly sewn seams in which the stitches run off the edge of the cloth	Restitch
Seams in which the thread has rotted	Restitch
Soiled areas (Fading is acceptable and so are spots and stains that remain in the canvas after it has been cleaned.)	Clean and re-treat
Webbing:	
Frayed ends	Repair
Broken or loose stitching	Restitch
Worn, torn, or damaged webbing	Replace
Mildew-stained webbing	Clean and re-treat
Mildew-rotted webbing	Replace
Hardware:	
Rusty, bent, broken, or cracked hardware	Replace
Missing hardware (Chalk mark points to the spot where the replacement hardware should be attached.)	Replace
Electro-zinc-plated hardware which has a dull, flaky finish	Replace with hot-galvanized finished hardware which has a bright smooth finish

Table 5-1. Areas marked in initial inspection of canvas and webbing
(Continued)

DEFECT	REPAIR
<u>Lines:</u>	
Frayed ends	Repair
Weak, worn, or broken lines	Replace
Loose splicing	Resplice
Mildew-stained lines	Clean and re-treat
Mildew-rotted lines	Replace
Excessively stretched lines	Shorten or replace
<u>Special items and attachments:</u>	
Ventilator opening or cover with more than two patches or defects	Replace
Ventilator duct with a hole or tear	Patch with either cemented or sewn patch
Blackout patch which does not close properly and allows light to shine through the gap	Replace
Improperly sized window flap	Replace
Extension cloth which causes the tent to wrinkle	Replace
Defective window frame assembly	Repair with a patch that does not distort the window opening
Window sash made of cellulose acetate and cotton netting	Replace with a flexible water-proof film sash
Exposed needle holes around previously replaced sash products	Replace sash pocket with a larger sash pocket that covers the holes
Defective outlet sash	Repair or patch if the repair sash and if no more than three patches will be used
Excessively burned stovepipe opening	Replace